Message Text

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NEA - MR. DAY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE USMISSION GENEVA

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S WELCOMING REMARKS TO ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN AT WHITE HOUSE MARCH 7

1. PRESIDENT CARTER'S WELCOMING REMARKS AT THE WHITE HOUSE CEREMONY FOR ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN MARCH 7 INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE:

"RECENTLY, SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE TOOK A TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, BEGAN HIS TRIP WITH A LONG CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND HIS CABINET, MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET, OTHER LEADERS OF ISRAEL, AND THEN SUBSEQUENTLY WENT TO MEET WITH THE LEADERS OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO TRY TO EXPLORE SOME COMMON GROUND FOR FUTURE PERMANENT PEACE THERE, SO THAT ISRAEL MIGHT HAVE DEFENSIBLE BORDERS SO THAT THE PEACE COMMITMENTS WOULD NEVER BE VIOLATED, AND THAT COULD BE A SENSE OF SECURITY ABOUT THIS YOUNG COUNTRY IN THE FUTURE."

2. WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY JODY POWELL MADE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOLLOWING POINTS AT THE LATER PRESS BRIEFING WHEN ASKED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS INCLUDING WHAT THE PRESIDENT MEANT IN TALKING ABOUT "DEFENSIBLE BORDERS" FOR ISRAEL:

- --IT IS IMPORTANT TO AVOID A NARROW DEFINITION OF "DEFENSIBLE" IN GEOGRAPHIC TERMS.
- --THE PRESIDENT WAS SPEAKING IN THE SAME BROAD TERMS HE HAS ALWAYS SPOKEN IN. THOSE TERMS ARE THE HISTORIC POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES ON THIS MATTER.
- --THESE TERMS WERE EXPRESSED IN UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242, WHICH CALLS FOR "SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES."
- --THE DEFINITION OF THESE SECURE BORDERS, IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S BELIEF, INCLUDES A BROAD RANGE OF CONSIDERATIONS--INCLUDING, THE OVERALL POLITICAL CLIMATE AND MUTUAL AGREEMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES DESIGNED TO

GUARANTEE THE SECURITY OF THE RECOGNIZED BORDERS.

- --THE PRESIDENT'S WORDS OF WELCOME TO PRIME MINISTER RABIN SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS A DEPARTURE FROM ESTABLISHED AMERICAN POLICY OR THE BREAKING OF NEW GROUND.
- --THE PRESIDENT FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT NEITHER THE UNITED STATES NOR ANY OTHER OUTSIDER SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN DICTATING A SETTLEMENT--WHICH THE PARTIES THEMSELVES MUST WORK OUT. BOTH SIDES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AGREE WITH THAT PROPOSITION.
- --THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS NO PLAN FOR THE MIDDLE EAST, NOR DOES THE PRESIDENT WISH TO OUTLINE ONE, TO BE IMPOSED ON THE PARTIES THERE. THIS PROPOSITION APPLIES TO THE "ROGERS PLAN," OR ONE BY ANY OTHER NAME.

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3. POSTS SHOULD DRAW ON THESE POINTS MADE BY WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY TO ANSWER INEVITABLE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS. WE ARE ALSO MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE ACTUAL TRANSCRIPT OF WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING ON THIS SUBJECT, AS WELL AS ON THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER GENERALLY, CARRIED ON WIRELESS FILE TODAY.

VANCE

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Subject: PRESIDENT CARTER\'S WELCOMING REMARKS TO ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN AT WHITE HOUSE MARCH 7

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